



St. Philip Neri Catholic Church
Our Ministry of Stewardship 2017-2018

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Mass Schedule

Saturday

Vigil: 5:30 p.m.

Sunday:

8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m.
5:30 p.m. (Contemporary Music)

Daily Mass: 9:30 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Wednesday – 7:00 p.m.,

or by appointment scheduled through a parish priest.

Office Hours

Monday through Friday - 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

St. Philip Neri Catholic Church
292 Munn Road
Fort Mill, SC 29715
803.548.7282
www.saintphilipneri.org
October 2017



A Welcome from Our Pastor

Welcome

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Welcome to our St. Philip Neri Church Community! We are grateful for countless blessings, with our parish of faithful people celebrating the abundance of God's graces for over 24 years. As always, I sincerely appreciate the stewardship of time, talent and treasure from those who have generously contributed to building our church throughout the years. I thank you for the support, and your ongoing commitment to participate in the life of our Parish. It is quite evident, that through your good works, our parish continues to live out our Mission Statement:

*We are a Catholic Community united
to form a church family dedicated to
continuing the ministry of Christ.
We will strive to be examples to others
through open minds,
open hearts and open arms.*

We must all prayerfully consider how each of us can be a good Christian steward, which has befittingly been described as "One who receives God's gifts gratefully, cherishes and tends them in a responsible and accountable manner, shares them in justice and love with others, and returns them with increase to the Lord" - (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops).

We here at St. Philip Neri Church serve our parish and community in numerous ways, from worship, religious education, spiritual development, community outreach, social activities, and sacramental preparation to supporting the sick and comforting those who mourn. It makes no difference whether you are young or old, in pursuit of a professional career or currently retired.....many opportunities for you to share your God-given gifts await you. I ask for your active participation in our parish life, and encourage all parishioners to pray and carefully contemplate their response to the Lord's invitation to be generous stewards.

This guidebook, "Our Ministry of Stewardship," provides information about the spiritual life at St. Philip Neri Church, and the numerous ministries that serve both our parish and community. If you are new to the parish, we extend a special welcome, and pray that you will find a warm home and a place where you can exercise stewardship by sharing your gifts. For those guests who attend our church, but have not yet registered, we encourage you to join our parish family through our registration process.

We also invite all parishioners to fully join in the stewardship efforts at our parish as we serve God and one another. We hope the information provided helps you to prayerfully discern where your stewardship gifts of time, talent and treasure might best be used to further build up the Kingdom of God, one that includes our parish, the local community and beyond. Please contact the Parish Office for additional information about any of the offerings at St. Philip Neri Church.

Thank you, as always, for continuing to live as generous stewards of the gifts God has entrusted to each of us, and for making St. Philip Neri Church a welcoming place for all. When considering our stewardship, I am reminded of the passage from Luke - "Much will be required of the person entrusted with much, and still more will be demanded of the person entrusted with more." I cherish my work with God's stewards -- our parishioners, and look forward to our future service. May the Lord Jesus continue to bless you, keep you close to His heart and lead you to fulfill your stewardship in our parish community.

Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. John P. DiLanni, C.O.

*As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace.
(1 Peter 4:10 NAB)*

A Note from the Bishop of Charleston



ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE
OF CHARLESTON
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

June 2017

Dear Parishioners of St. Philip Neri,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each of you for your time, talent and treasure that you have shared with St. Philip Neri Catholic Church.

As you know, the Diocese of Charleston is faced with many challenges but with your efforts these challenges have become opportunities to help those in need not only at St. Philip Neri but beyond. You have played a significant role in assisting these ministries through your sacrifices and generosity.

Thank you again for all that you do to build up the Kingdom of God here in South Carolina. Please know that you are in my thoughts and prayers.

In the Lord's Peace,

Most Reverend Robert E. Guglielmo
Bishop of Charleston

Discerning Your Stewardship...and Your Gifts

Stewardship is a way of life defined by the manner in which we use the gifts given to us by God. We are Christian stewards, and are called to use His gifts of our time, talent and treasure to serve Him and each other. Through prayerful discernment, each individual must consciously identify the gifts with which he or she has been blessed. We can then share our resources by actively participating in the ministries at St. Philip Neri Church as we live as disciples, enrich our faith and spread God's Word.



Sharing Our Time

As good stewards, we are called to use our time wisely as we build up God's kingdom on earth. We all can give of our time in many ways, such as spending time with God in worship at Mass and daily prayer, and sharing our love with family and friends.

Sharing Our Talent

God has given each of us abilities and talents, with all called to use these gifts to serve God by serving others, both within our church and in the community. One can share one's talents by participating in the numerous ministries offered at our parish.

Sharing Our Treasure

God cannot be outdone in generosity, and we must respond in kind. We are called, as good stewards, to share our treasure by financially supporting our parish, Diocese and other charitable organizations. Equal sacrifice, not equal giving, enables us to fulfill the mission to which we have been called.

Identifying Your Gifts

While this guidebook serves as a resource that provides information about the numerous ministries that parishioners may participate in at St. Philip Neri Church, it is up to every individual member to determine the area in which God is calling each to serve. God has not given His gifts to a select few, but has given gifts to all. He calls every individual to live as disciples and serve in a ministry that can help not only our parish but the larger community as well.

Questions and Tips for Discernment

- Carve out time for careful thought and prayer and ask God to show you where He desires your presence.
- Make a list of your skills and the activities you enjoy.
- Spend time reviewing the various ministries in this guidebook and identify those that spark your interest.
- Which ministry is best suited for your abilities?
- Have you observed a need or have a desire to establish a new ministry at St. Philip Neri Church?

Stewardship Prayer

*Praised are you O God,
Creator of the universe
who graciously bestows
all good gifts upon us.
You have made us stewards
over the world
so that in honoring your creation
we may honor you.*

*Grant that we may use your gifts
gratefully and that we may have
generous hearts and minds.
Help us return to you in gratitude
and in delight all good things
you have given to us.*

*We ask these things in Jesus' name.
Amen.*

Priests & Deacons

Our Priests & Deacons

Since its founding in 1993, St. Philip Neri Church has been served by priests that belong to The Congregation of the Oratory of Saint Philip Neri, a pontifical society of apostolic life of Catholic priests and lay-brothers who live together in a community bound together by no formal vows but only with the bond of charity. St. Philip Neri established this religious community in the 16th century. Members are known as Oratorians, and live in Oratory houses throughout the world.

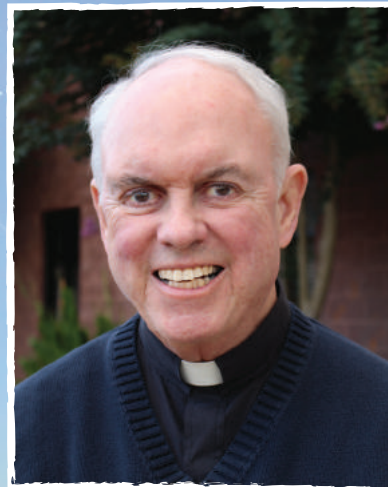
The Rock Hill Oratory is the oldest and largest house in the United States. Oratorians, who carry on St. Philip Neri's charism of prayer, reflection on Scripture and work with the laity, use the initials C.O. after their names, a designation that stands for Congregation of the Oratory. Our pastor and assisting priest have committed their lives to serving the people of God, and minister to the faithful by providing spiritual care and comfort.

Our deacons assist the priests in serving the spiritual needs of our parish. Deacons can baptize, witness marriages, perform funeral and burial services outside of Mass, distribute Holy Communion and preach the homily. Given their spiritual works, our deacons are a vital part of parish life.

Priests



Pastor: Fr. John Giuliani, C.O.



Assisting Clergy: Fr. Ed McDevitt, C.O.

Deacons



Deacon Jon Dwyer



Deacon Steve Rhodes



Deacon George Johnston

Our Parish Staff

Our parish is blessed with a dedicated and helpful staff that serves the life of our church community. The staff assists in a variety of ways to ensure that all aspects of parish life - from administration, religious education, and adult spiritual development to facilities maintenance, liturgical music and outreach ministries - are supported. Working for the parish is a ministry, with the Parish Staff assisting the pastor and parishioners with the church's day-to-day operations. All members of the Parish Staff are ready to assist....and welcome you to our church community.



Lynda Curry
Business Manager



Maria Cordova
Administrative Assistant



Resa Reed
Bookkeeper



Mary Harden
Director of Faith Formation



Jeanette Swint
Faith Formation Assistant



Tayler Howie
Youth Minister



Beth Donnelly
Edge Coordinator



Linda Liberty
Director of Music



Jen Fredenberg
Communications Coordinator



Jenny Funk
Volunteer Coordinator



Isa Montes
Receptionist



Hanns Braun
Maintenance Technician



Lee Kinloch
Audiovisual Coordinator



Audra Hesse
Director of Child Development Center

Our Parish Staff

Email Directory

Lynda Curry - businessmanager@saintphilipneri.org
 Maria Cordova - administrativeassistant@saintphilipneri.org
 Resa Reed - accountant@saintphilipneri.org
 Mary Harden - faithformationdirector@SaintPhilipNeri.org
 Tayler Howie - youthministry@saintphilipneri.org
 Beth Donnelly - edgecoordinator@saintphilipneri.org

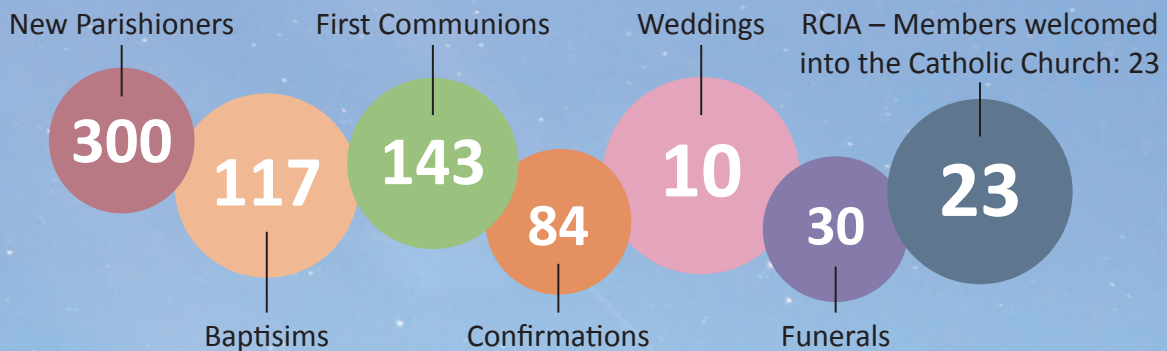
Linda Liberty - musicdirector@saintphilipneri.org
 Jen Fredenberg - communications@saintphilipneri.org
 Jenny Funk - volunteercoordinator@saintphilipneri.org
 Isa Montes - receptionist@saintphilipneri.org
 Hanns Braun - maintenance@saintphilipneri.org
 Lee Kinloch - audiovisual@saintphilipneri.org
 Audra Hesse - childdevelopmentdirector@saintphilipneri.org

Our Parish Community

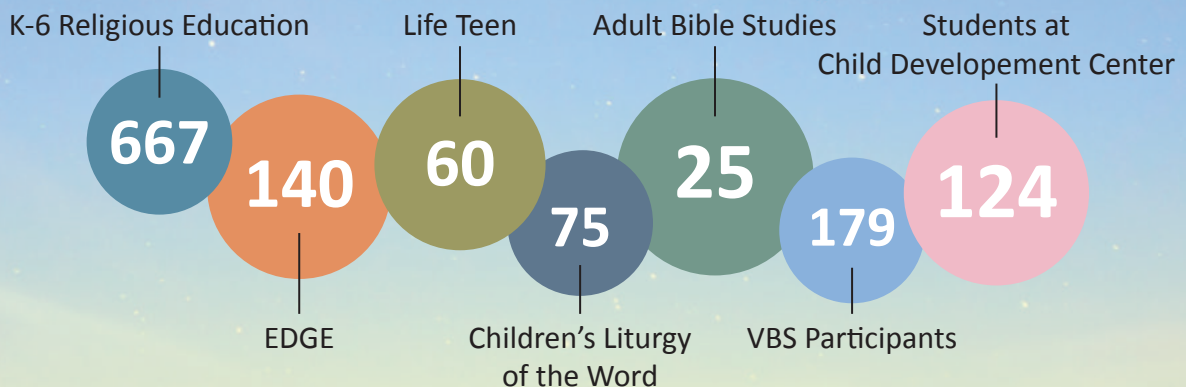
Welcome to St. Philip Neri Church. Our parish, founded in 1993, started with 70 families. Over the years, we have grown to approximately 2,600 families made up of nearly 7,800 registered parishioners. During the past fiscal year, about 300 families registered with our parish community. Our parish continues to grow, while we serve the needs of both the parish and community through faith-filled actions, prayer, service and fellowship. Everyday, we strive to be a welcoming parish that reflects the heart, mercy and teachings of Christ, the traditions of the Roman Catholic Church and the spirit of joy manifested by our patron saint - St. Philip Neri - the Patron Saint of Joy.

St. Philip Neri Church is ready and willing to be of service to you, your family and your spiritual needs. As signified below, and in the diagram on the facing page, our parish has enriched the spiritual lives of many people. It is our sincere desire to make you feel part of our Catholic Community and help you in any way we can. Always keep in mind how important you are in the life of the church and our St. Philip Neri family.

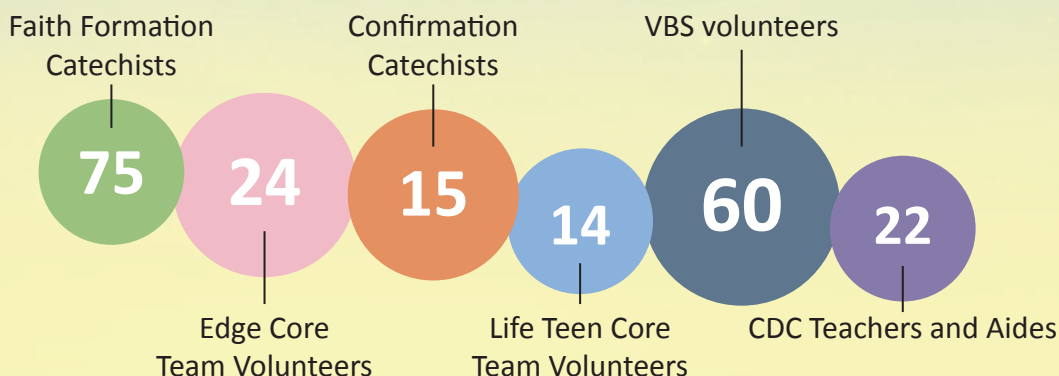
Parish Statistics for Fiscal Year 2016 / 2017

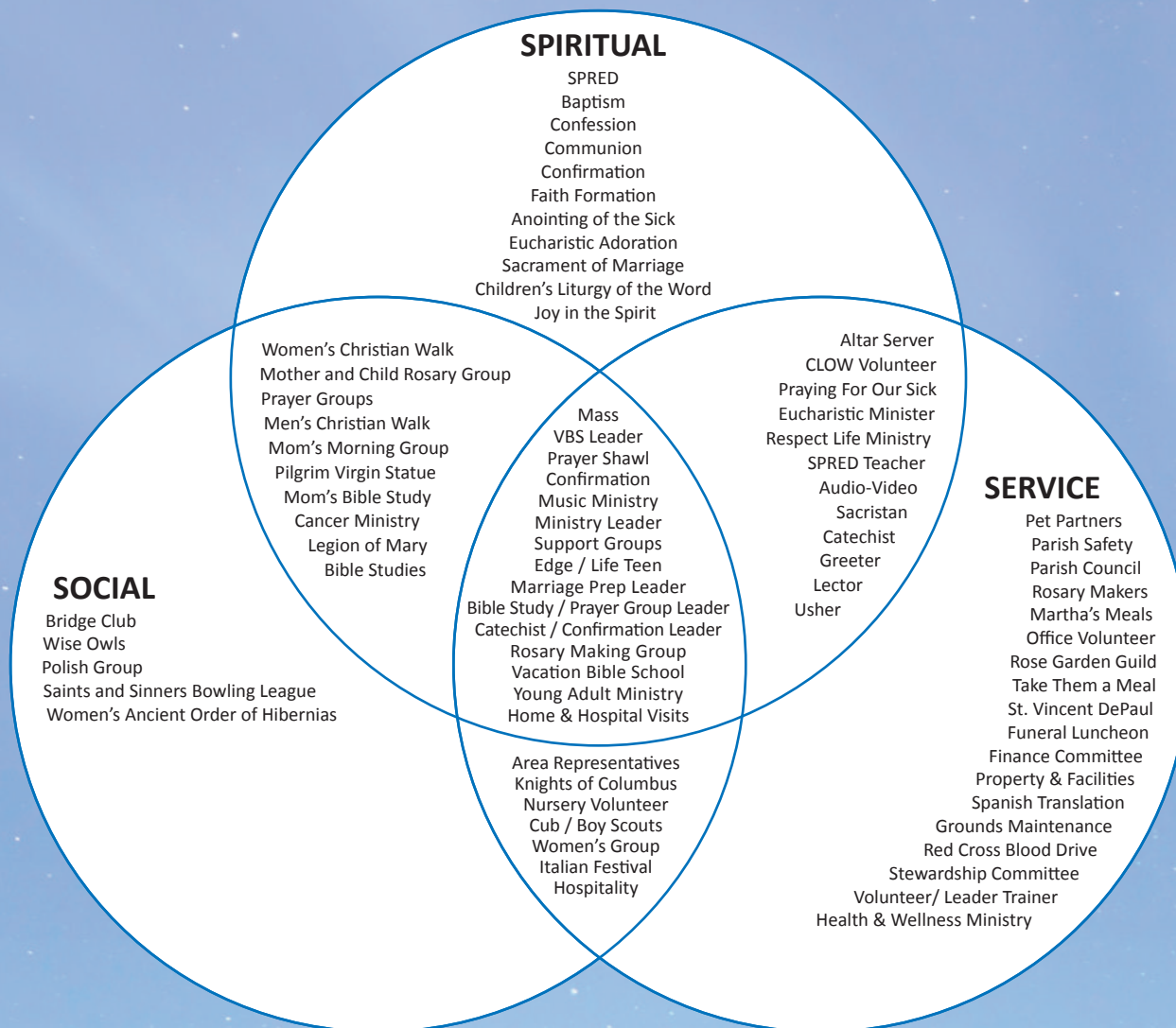


Religious Education Programs



Religious Education Volunteers for Fiscal Year 2016 / 2017





Joining Our Parish

We eagerly welcome new families and individuals to our Catholic community. Registration forms are available in the parish office or in the gathering space in the sanctuary. The completed form may be returned to the parish office or submitted through the Sunday offertory collection basket. After a registration form is processed, a packet of temporary offertory envelopes for weekly contributions will be mailed. Offertories may also take place via an electronic funds transfer through our electronic payments provider, at the Giving Kiosk on the desk in the sanctuary or through a service such as online bill pay at your personal bank. Please call the parish office for additional information.

Not Catholic? Want to learn more about Catholicism?

We welcome you!

The Rite of Christian Initiation is a journey that welcomes people into the Catholic faith. The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) is for those individuals who are 18 and older who want to become a member of the Catholic Church. Programs for teenagers (RCIT: Rite of Christian Initiation for Teens) and children (RCIC: Rite of Christian Initiation for Children) are also available. Spiritual formation and education about our Catholic faith takes place during these rites, which enables individuals to become fully incorporated into the Body of Christ, the Catholic Church.

Specially designed to bring converts into the Catholic Church, participants in these rites are either of no particular faith or have previously followed another religion. The program is also open to anyone interested in learning more about the Catholic faith. The program commences in September, with it culminating at the Easter Vigil when those joining the Catholic Church will be received through the Sacraments of Initiation.

Our Parish Advisory Committees

The Advisory Committees are charged with providing oversight, support and direction for the mission, finances, property, safety and stewardship at St. Philip Neri Church. These committees are made up of dedicated individuals with a vast wealth of knowledge and experience.

Parish Council

This council works in collaboration with the pastor to further the mission, goals and spiritual development of the parish. The Parish Council assists with pastoral planning, developing pastoral programs, improving pastoral service and evaluating various pastoral programs and services. The pastor appoints new members for this council on an as-needed basis.

Finance Council

This council, which assists the pastor with the administration and stewardship of the temporal goods of the parish, supports good financial governance. The Finance Council strives for high standards of fiscal integrity and for accountability to both the Diocese of Charleston and our parishioners – the people in the pew. The pastor appoints new members for this council on an as-needed basis.

Property and Facility Committee

This committee advises the pastor, Business Manager and Maintenance Technician about the management and maintenance of the physical properties owned by the church. Properties include the Sanctuary, Parish Center, Ministry Building, storage building, grounds, and the columbariums. This committee, which assesses the short- and long-term needs for all facilities, also offers guidance and recommends necessary improvements.

Safety Team

The Safety Team, which provides security for the parish at weekend Masses, has established, implemented and continues to assess the parish's safety and security plan. Team members are trained in first aid, CPR, evacuation techniques, safety responses to fire and weather emergencies, and church security. They also educate staff members, volunteers and parishioners about the safety protocols that relate to the plan.

Stewardship Committee

The Stewardship Committee seeks to develop stewardship as a way of life in the parish, with members educating parishioners about the gifts of our time, talent and treasure given to us by God. The committee is an important and necessary element in the parish's success with serving God and the community. Members are instrumental in the areas of education and formation, facilitation, communication, implementation, follow-up and the evaluation of the parish's stewardship program.



Communicating with Our Parishioners

Our priests, deacons, parish staff, advisory committees, ministries and the Diocese of Charleston use a variety of tools to effectively communicate information about the parish and the Catholic Church. The following tools are currently used, with the parish planning to expand the usage of social media throughout the next year.

Parish Websites

The following websites are maintained at St. Philip Neri Church:

Main Website:

www.saintphilipneri.org

Child Development Center:

www.stphilipneripreschool.com

Italian Festival:

www.SPNItalianFestival.org

Parish Bulletin

Published weekly, the bulletin is available at all weekend masses and on the parish's main website.

Catholic Miscellany

The Catholic Miscellany, the official newspaper for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charleston, serves the state of South Carolina. This bi-weekly publication, through its mission, communicates Gospel values and news about the local and universal Catholic Church. Please call the parish office or visit www.themiscellany.org if you would like to receive this informative newspaper.



Liturgical Ministries

The celebration of the Eucharist is central to our faith community at St. Philip Neri Church, with this traditional practice enabling us to worship and live as faith-filled Catholics. The Liturgical Ministries offer parishioners the opportunity to fulfill a special role in Eucharistic celebrations during daily and weekend masses and other liturgical events. These roles, which may be either visible or behind-the-scenes, are extremely important to the reverent and orderly celebration of the Mass. Help is always needed, and we gratefully welcome parishioners to become involved in the Liturgical Ministries that serve the St. Philip Neri Church community.

Altar Servers

This ministry, which is open to adults as well as children that have made their First Holy Communion and completed the third grade, is directed to parishioners who desire to take part in the Holy Eucharist in a more intimate way. Servers must possess the maturity required to respectfully serve on the altar and assist the priest and deacon during Mass. Orientation and training are provided, with attendance at one annual meeting required.



Eucharistic Ministers

This ministry is open to any devout, practicing Catholic parishioner who is in full communion with the Catholic Church and has received the Sacrament of Confirmation. They must be at least 16 years of age, be knowledgeable about the mystery of the Eucharist and reverent of the duty and privilege that they perform. Members, who assist the priest in the distribution of the Eucharist at a Mass of their choice, also provide assistance by taking Holy Communion to parishioners who are homebound, in nursing homes or in hospitals. Attendance at orientation and training is required.

Greeters

The members of this ministry, who help to create a warm and welcoming environment before Masses, greet attendees while they enter the church. Greeters also hand out bulletins, assist in the distribution and collection of worship aides such as missiles, and direct guests or new members to the welcome desk in the Sanctuary's Gathering Space.

Lectors

Lectors reverently assist in the Mass, as they proclaim the Word of God during the first two Scripture Readings and lead the Prayers of the Faithful. Membership is open to adults or youths who are articulate in their speech and pronunciations, have a clear voice and feel comfortable speaking in front of the congregation. Orientation and training is required.

Nursery during Sunday Mass

The nursery is provided during the 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. masses for children between the ages of 15 months and five years. The nursery is offered in Room D in the basement of the Sanctuary.



Sacristans

This ministry, which enables an orderly celebration of the Mass, is open to all adults and teens interested in administering several important works before and after the celebration of the Holy Eucharistic. Responsibilities include preparing the altar and credence table before Mass and gathering the vessels necessary for the sacrifice of the Mass. After Mass, sacristans are responsible for cleaning the sacred vessels and utensils that come in direct contact with the Blessed Sacrament and returning all items to their proper place.

Sound & Video Board Operators

This ministry is open to all adults and teens interested in operating the soundboard and video systems during the Mass. These systems enable the presider, lectors and choir to be heard clearly by all attending the Eucharistic celebration. Training and orientation are required.

Ushers

This ministry, open to any interested adult or teen parishioner, provides assistance to the congregation during the celebration of the Mass. Ushers seat attendees as necessary, assist with offertory collections, count attendance and direct traffic flow as guests proceed to Holy Communion. In addition, they provide other services that may be required to maintain order throughout the Mass.

Desk in Sanctuary

The members of this ministry provide assistance, as needed, before and after the celebration of weekend masses. Volunteers with a friendly smile sit at the welcome desk in the Sanctuary as they greet and answer general questions from both parishioners and guests.

Music Ministries

Members of the Music Ministries proclaim and share the Word of God in song by participating in various music-related efforts at St. Philip Neri Church. Individuals, who give of their time to offer their God-given musical talents, foster and nurture participation within the worshipping community during weekend liturgies and other special services.

Mass Choir

This choir sings every Sunday at the 9:30 a.m. Mass. Participants must be committed, and enjoy singing and recognize its importance to the celebration of the Eucharist. Rehearsals take place every Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

St. Cecelia Choir

This choir, open to ladies aged 15 years and older, sings at the 11:30 a.m. Mass every Sunday morning. Participants must be committed, enjoy singing and recognize that music is an integral part of the solemn liturgy that assists participants in the celebration of our faith. Rehearsals take place every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.

Handbell Ensemble

This ensemble, which meets every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. for rehearsal, performs at select regular Masses and at special liturgies and services. The ability to read music or prior handbell ringing experience is helpful, but not a requirement.

Brass Ensemble and Instrumental Soloists

This ensemble accompanies the liturgy on an as-needed basis, with rehearsals scheduled by appointment. Duo, trio, quartet and quintet ensembles are formed as needed. Woodwind and string players are needed throughout the year as well.

Cantors

Our cantors, who make the congregation's prayer possible through song at each celebration of the Eucharist, are a vital part of the Mass. They assist the assembly as necessary, such as leading the proclamation of the responsorial song, the gospel acclamation and other liturgical songs. Cantors must have a strong singing voice, an ability to encourage participants to join in the songs and a dedication to the ministry of music. While cantors are encouraged to join the choir, it is not required.

Consolation Choir

The consolation choir, which aids the assemblies at funeral liturgies, meets 30 minutes before the scheduled funeral Mass time. This choir, which is open to anyone who is available during the day, is usually notified on short notice when their participation is needed.

Lifenotes

This contemporary ensemble leads the music at the Life Teen Mass that is celebrated weekly on Sunday at 5:30 p.m. Rehearsals are held on Sunday afternoon at 4:00 p.m.

Additional Opportunities

Instrumentalists are needed at times, with both students and adults invited to participate. Pianists and organists are also occasionally needed to substitute for regular participants.

Other Liturgy-Related Offerings

Live Streaming of Masses

In an effort to reach out to those who cannot attend Mass, St. Philip Neri Church offers live streaming of the 9:30 a.m. Sunday Mass. A link to access this service, including archived Masses as well, is provided on the church website.

Children's Liturgy of The Word

This program, offered during non-summer months at the 11:30 a.m. Mass, is designed for children who are at least four years of age through Grade Five. Children are guided from Mass at the Liturgy of the Word, with the Sunday Mass readings then presented from the Children's Lectionary at a reading level appropriate for the age group. Volunteers (adults and teens), with the aid of handouts, explain the relationship between the current readings and the children's everyday lives.

Healing Mass

All celebrations of the Mass are healing since God wants to heal us through the powerful sacrament of the Eucharist. Our parish offers a special healing Mass on a quarterly basis. All of us need healing, either due to a spiritual, emotional and/or physical affliction. The service is open to all who seek healing for himself or herself, a family member, or anyone struggling with a health issue.



The Sacraments

The Sacraments

The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC), a document published in 1992 that covers Catholic doctrine and the essential and fundamental content of Catholic faith and morals, affirms that “the seven sacraments touch all the stages and all the important moments of Christian life. They give birth and increase healing and mission to the Christian’s life of faith.”

Sacraments of Initiation

The sacraments of Christian initiation – Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist – lay the foundations of every Christian life. The sharing in the divine nature given to men through the grace of Christ bears a certain likeness to the origin, development and nourishing of natural life. The faithful are born anew by Baptism, strengthened by the sacrament of Confirmation, and receive in the Eucharist the food of eternal life. - CCC

Eucharist

Mass is celebrated daily, with several masses scheduled on Sunday. Parishioners are also invited to celebrate special liturgies such as Holy Days of Obligation and certain feast days during the liturgical year. Individuals unable to attend Mass may request that the Holy Eucharist be brought to them as the need arises.



Baptism

Private group baptisms, led by our deacons, are scheduled on the first and third Saturdays of each month at 11 a.m. Baptisms may also be celebrated during weekend Masses. Parents must register for and attend a Baptism Class before their child may be baptized. Classes are held at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of every month.

Confirmation

Our parish offers a two-year program for ninth and tenth grade students. Classes are held the first and third Sundays of the month after the 5:30 p.m. Mass.

Sacraments of Healing

Through the sacraments of Christian initiation, man receives the new life of Christ. Now we carry this life "in earthen vessels," and it remains "hidden with Christ in God." We are still in our "earthly tent," subject to suffering, illness, and death. This new life as a child of God can be weakened and even lost by sin. The Lord Jesus Christ, physician of our souls and bodies, who forgave the sins of the paralytic and restored him to bodily health, has willed that His Church continue, in the power of the Holy Spirit, His work of healing and salvation, even among her own members. This is the purpose of the two sacraments of healing: the sacrament of Penance and the sacrament of Anointing of the Sick. -CCC

Reconciliation

The sacrament of Reconciliation is held every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. In addition, the sacrament is available by scheduling an appointment through the parish office.

Anointing of the Sick

The sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, according to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, confers "a special grace on Christians that are experiencing the difficulties inherent in the condition of grave illness or old age." This sacrament may be requested through the Parish Office or experienced at the healing Mass that is offered on a quarterly basis.

Sacraments at the Service of Communion

Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist are sacraments of Christian initiation. They ground the common vocation of all Christ's disciples, a vocation to holiness and to the mission of evangelizing the world. They confer the graces needed for the life according to the Spirit during this life as pilgrims on the march towards the homeland. Two other sacraments, Holy Orders and Matrimony, are directed towards the salvation of others; if they contribute as well to personal salvation, it is through service to others that they do so. They confer a particular mission in the Church and serve to build up the People of God. - CCC

Holy Orders

Holy Orders includes Priesthood and the Diaconate, in which we encourage all men to prayerfully discern if God is calling them to either of these vocations. Our parish priests and deacons will happily discuss their vocation, offer wisdom and direction those interested.

Matrimony

Christian marriage is a sign of God's loving presence in the world. Arrangements must be made with the Pastor and parish office at least six months prior to the proposed date of marriage. Prior to the ceremony, participation in marriage preparation classes is also required.



Serving Our Need for Prayer & Spiritual Growth

St. Philip Neri Church provides numerous opportunities for parishioners to enrich their spiritual lives, and to consciously grow in the life of Christ through experience, reflection, prayer and study. These programs are designed to build a vibrant and fruitful parish community of mature Disciples of Christ who are equipped to proclaim, witness and share the good news of Jesus Christ among our families, workplaces, social environments and public domains. The programs, in which all adults are encouraged to participate, attempt to bring about a closer relationship with both God and our fellow parishioners.

Adoration

In Adoration, we talk to Jesus face-to-face and rest in His presence in the Eucharist. The time provides an opportunity to worship Him, thank Him and ask Him to intercede for the needs of our loved ones, the church, our nation, the world and ourselves. He touches us when we open ourselves to Him, and we hear His words of love and encouragement. Remarkably, adoration will calm your fears, and bring healing, joy and peace as you receive His grace. The exposition of the Eucharist takes place in the Adoration Chapel each Wednesday after the 9:30 a.m. Mass through Saturday at 5:00 p.m.



Centering Prayer

Centering Prayer is a method of prayer that prepares us for receiving the gift of God's presence. It consists of responding to the Spirit of Christ by consenting to God's presence and action's within each individual. Centering Prayer facilitates the movement from more active modes of prayer - verbal, mental or affective prayer - into a receptive prayer of resting in God.

Joy in the Spirit

Joy in the Spirit is a Catholic Charismatic prayer group. Members seek to experience a richer and more tangible experience of the Holy Spirit through prayer and the gifts of the Holy Spirit. A Life in the Spirit Seminar, during which time one is introduced to a greater filling of the Holy Spirit, is scheduled annually.



Mother and Child Rosary Group

This group meets for fellowship and prayer twice a month in a member's home. Just as Mary cradled her child Jesus, children are welcome to sit in their mother's lap, eat snacks and play, or do whatever their precious hearts desire while the rosary is prayed. Mothers can be a bit pulled and stretched at times, but let us ponder the words of Saint John Paul II...."The Rosary has a peaceful effect on those who pray it."

Praying For Our Sick

The parish staff maintains a list of individuals that are in need of God's grace and healing due to an illness of any kind. The list is regularly placed on the Welcome Desk in the church so that this prayer group is aware of those people in need. Due to confidentiality concerns, please obtain permission from the individual in need of prayer prior to asking a member of the office staff to include the individual's full name on the prayer list. Please remember, "...pray for one another so that you may be healed." - James 5:16

Pilgrim Virgin Statue

The Pilgrim Virgin Statue, which represents Our Lady of Fatima, is hosted weekly in a member's home. On Thursday evenings, participants gather to pray the Rosary, offer intentions and reflect upon the Mysteries of the Rosary. This powerful means of prayer and intercession embodies the scripture, "For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there in their midst." – Matthew 18:20



Legion of Mary

The Legion of Mary is an international Catholic apostolic organization for laity. This group, tied to a Marian spirituality marked by service and humility, seeks Mary's help in doing God's will. While all members pray for one another throughout the world, active duty members perform service work and auxiliary members pray for those engaged in the active works. Members of this ministry also show their devotion to the Blessed Mother by making rosaries for distribution to various groups within the church community and beyond.

Bible Studies

God calls us to have a living faith, fully alive and always growing. Bible study keeps our minds and hearts afresh with new knowledge and wisdom. Our journey of faith is life long. Faith formation does not end in childhood or after Confirmation. A maturing faith is a commitment to always learn more about God and His will. Our parish continues to offer a variety of topical Bible studies to encourage growth among our members. Series have included studies on the Mass, Catholicism, Salvation History, Church History, Mary, the Creed, Prophets, Prayer, Personal Growth and individual books of the Bible. Group studies are offered on Sunday and Tuesday mornings. Parishioners are also encouraged to form study groups of their own.

Mom's Bible Study

This ministry engages moms who want to grow deeper in their faith and enjoy fellowship with other moms. The group reviews the Bible and faith-based studies.

Women's Christian Walk

Women's Christian Walk is a weekend retreat based on the Biblical account of Jesus' walk with two disciples on the road to Emmaus. It provides an opportunity to leave behind busy schedules and worldly distractions to take time to ponder the ways in which the risen Christ reveals his love for us in the journey of life. After the retreat, participants continue to meet for breakfast once a month to continue sisterhood with each other and to deepen their relationship with God.

Men's Christian Walk

This program, available for men 21 years of age and over, provides a weekend to reflect on one's spiritual relationship with Jesus. It is based on St. Luke's account of two disciples and Jesus as they walked together to Emmaus. These retreats, which offer a respite from the stresses of daily life, help individuals to renew their spiritual life, strengthen their relationship with Jesus and the Holy Spirit, and spend time with God. All men are invited to meet Jesus on their personal walk to Emmaus.

Serving Our Youth....Religious Education

The Religious Education programs at St. Philip Neri Church are designed to help our children learn and participate in their faith, grow spiritually and ultimately carry on the Catholic Church's mission as they grow older. These programs involve our entire parish community, with parishioners serving as catechists that enthusiastically donate both their time and talent to assist our young people as they grow in their faith.

Faith Formation (Kindergarten - 6th Grade)

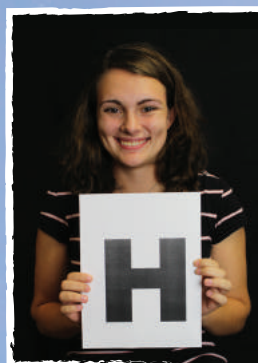
This program introduces our young people to God in a meaningful way, and conveys God's love to children by providing an environment that encourages spiritual and developmental growth. Catechists, who model a living faith while providing creative learning experiences, educate the children in the teachings and traditions of our Roman Catholic faith while also preparing them for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. Students must complete the First Grade Faith Formation program to enter a sacramental prep class, with these sacraments then typically celebrated while students are in Second Grade. Classes are scheduled on Monday, Wednesday and Sunday, from September through May. (Catechist opportunities available for adults and teenagers.)



EDGE (7th & 8th Grades)

This program, which focuses on Christ's teachings, provides a fun and spiritually filled atmosphere that encourages our youth to grow and share in God's love through our Catholic tradition. Faith is put into action, with children taking part in both field trips and a community-oriented service project on an annual basis. Classes are scheduled on the 1st and 3rd Sundays, September through May. (Volunteer opportunities for adults.)





Life Teen (9th - 12th Grades)

Life Teen, a movement that seeks to lead teens closer to Christ, is centered upon the Eucharist and consecrated to the Blessed Mother. Teens gather to build community, have fun, and learn more about the Catholic faith. A core team made up of adults leads the teens into a deeper relationship with the Lord through Life Nights, retreats, and service projects. Additional events are also scheduled throughout the year. Teens may find information about upcoming events by joining the Facebook group “Saint Philip Neri Life Teen” and following @lifeteen_SPN on Instagram and Twitter. Life Nights, which take place on the 2nd and 4th Sundays during school months, are also scheduled once a month during summer. (Volunteer opportunities for adults and for parents to cook meals.)

SPRED: Special Religious Development

This ministry, which recognizes the dignity and value of every person, is offered for children and adults with developmental disabilities. Our program, which brings individuals into communion with Christ and the church, enables participants to sense His presence in their lives and experience Christ’s love and mercy. Classes are held twice per month in the parish center from 9:30 am to 11:00 am. Catechists meet separately before each SPRED session to plan sessions and pray for our SPRED community members. (Volunteer opportunities for Teens & Adults)

Vacation Bible School

This ministry, which provides a fun and faith filled educational opportunity for children of the parish and community, takes place during the mornings of one week every June. Kids learn faith lessons through hands-on crafts, games, creative snacks, music and skits. Children must be at least four years of age (by September 1st) up through a rising 5th grader. In order to safely care for and educate the children, adults of all ages and teen volunteers are sought to help with the activities.

Other Programs for Sacraments

Classes are occasionally offered for children in the third grade or above who have not yet received the sacraments of Reconciliation or First Holy Communion in the traditional manner. Details may be obtained from the Director of Faith Formation.

Serving Our Young Adults

The Young Adult Ministry at St. Philip Neri Church is a community of young people in their twenties and thirties that strive to deepen their relationship with Christ. In a world with ever shifting values, this program provides a place for younger adults with common Catholic values to form community, pray with one another, and further seek the Lord. With the Church as the foundation, participants are able to take part in bible studies, trivia nights, cookouts, and other events throughout the year. The best source of information about upcoming events may be found by joining the Facebook group, “Saint Philip Neri Young Adults.”

Serving Our Youth....Preschool at St. Philip Neri Church's Child Development Center

Every child is unique and a special gift from God, with each individual possessing special talents and gifts. The Child Development Center, operated by St. Philip Neri Church, seeks to nurture each child's academic and social skills through a hands-on approach to learning. The center fills a substantial need of both our parish and community by preparing preschool-aged children with the abilities necessary to enter kindergarten. It also offers children the experience of a Christian way of life. This program is open to children that are two, three or four years old. Attendees must be age-appropriate by September 1st. Sessions take place from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Monday through Friday during the months of September through May.



The goals of the Child Development Center, which are designed to be age and developmentally appropriate to optimize the preschoolers learning experience, include:

- To provide a safe, nurturing and child-centered environment for all children, including those who may have special needs.
- To play and create a program based on the developmental milestones in a young child's life, using appropriate lessons and activities to foster his or her developmental growth.
- To provide a program that will nurture confidence, learning, and caring.
- To show children and their families, on a daily basis, how special they are to us and to God.

Additional information may be obtained at www.stphilipneripreschool.com.

Serving Local High School Students - St. Anne High School at St. Philip Neri Church Campus

Since August 2017, St. Anne High School of Rock Hill, South Carolina has been located in the Ministry Building at St. Philip Neri Church. Prior to the arrangement, St. Anne had experienced a pressing requirement for additional space, with our church able to comfortably accommodate their needs. Our church views this opportunity as a ministry, with our parishioners happily embracing the Catholic education that is taking place in a safe and nurturing environment on our campus. The Bishop of Charleston, in his ongoing support for Catholic education, has stated his belief that Catholic education is a gift that we as a Catholic Church can offer, not only to our own children, but to society at large.



St. Anne High School

The Mission, Vision & Philosophy of St. Anne High School

St. Anne High School unites the long-standing, bountiful tradition of Catholic education with a personalized learning experience. Students, who are strengthened by the grace of the Holy Spirit, are empowered to develop their potential as a human being, and become virtuous leaders within the community and constructive, active participants in the life of the Catholic Church. The school proclaims the Catholic way of life as manifested in Scripture, the principles of moral values and practices of faith, as it fosters individual growth in the virtues of faith, hope and love.

The administrators and faculty of St. Anne School inspire excellence in God's children by educating the whole child – the intellectual, physical, emotional, spiritual, social and cultural dimensions of his/her personality. St. Anne School's leaders believe that each of their students is called to serve humanity, with each administrator and teacher able to prepare students for this service by providing a strong academic foundation, a desire for knowledge and a sense of community.



Serving Our Parish, through Outreach & Charity

Since the parish was founded in 1993, a number of organizations have been established at St. Philip Neri Church to help those in need, wherever their difficulties may lie. Help is always needed, and we gratefully welcome parishioners to become involved so as to support the many outreach programs that serve our fellow parishioners.

Bereavement/ Grief Support Ministry

This ministry assists families that are grieving after the death of a loved one, with members offering empathy and consolation through a variety of activities. Members send cards, make calls and visits, host the Annual All Soul's Day Mass, and ensure the availability of the Parish's Book of the Names of the Dead. This ministry also sponsors grief support groups that help fill the loneliness and manage the emotions of a changing lifestyle.



Cancer Ministry

The members of the cancer ministry provide spiritual, emotional and practical support to parishioners who are either a current cancer patient, a caregiver for a cancer patient or grieving the loss of a loved one due to cancer. Services include, among others, transportation, handyman services, one-on-one partners, and a card and prayer ministry.

Funeral Luncheons

The members of this ministry, who provide comfort and compassion to the family and friends of deceased parishioners, coordinate meals and refreshments for usage after Funeral Masses. Volunteers prepare food, pick up catered food, set up the Parish Center prior to the luncheon, serve funeral attendees and clean up after the meal.

Health & Wellness

The Health and Wellness Ministry offers resources that enable parishioners to be better stewards of the life that God has given to each of us. This team of committed professionals and interested health care advocates support and assist the congregation in achieving better health through education, monthly health checks, and other means.

Home and Hospital Visitations

Through home and hospital visits, Eucharistic Ministers provide the sick, elderly and homebound with loving companionship and the Holy Eucharist. Volunteers live their faith by taking Christ to others while they fulfill a vital corporal work of mercy, visiting the sick.

Hospitality Committee

The Hospitality Committee welcomes parishioners and guests by serving refreshments after Masses on Hospitality Sunday, which is scheduled on a monthly basis. Volunteers also serve during other parish events that include newcomer's luncheons and parish anniversary celebrations.

Pet Partners

Pet Partners, a ministry established in 2013, responds to God's call to visit and comfort the sick and lonely. Pet owners and their dogs visit nursing homes, hospitals, childcare centers, and hospice facilities. The dogs must be friendly, mild-mannered and have a gentle temperament. Volunteers that serve in this ministry may be adults and teens, with this program also suitable for a family with children.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The members of this ministry personally hand-knit or crochet prayer shawls for our parishioners, participants in the Rachel's Vineyard Retreats, and others in the community. Given to individuals in need of comfort and prayer, these hand made "gifts of love" provide a tangible symbol of the loving embrace of a praying community.

Respect Life Ministry

The members of this ministry seek to teach respect for all human life from conception to natural death. Members help people to understand, value and become engaged with supporting the dignity of all people, and therefore the gift of every person's life. This mission is accomplished through prayer, financial support and fundraising.



Rose Garden Guild

The St. Therese Rose Garden, which was developed by the Rose Garden Guild in 2016, beautifies the landscaping on our parish grounds while also offering parishioners a place to pray. Members offer their gifts of service and time to care for this garden that honors St. Therese, the Little Flower of Jesus.

Volunteers in Parish Office

The members of this ministry provide assistance, as needed, in the parish office on weekdays during regular business hours. Responsibilities include greeting and answering general questions from parishioners and guests, answering phones and completion of small office-oriented tasks.

Serving the Community, through Our Treasure



We give, because God gave first.

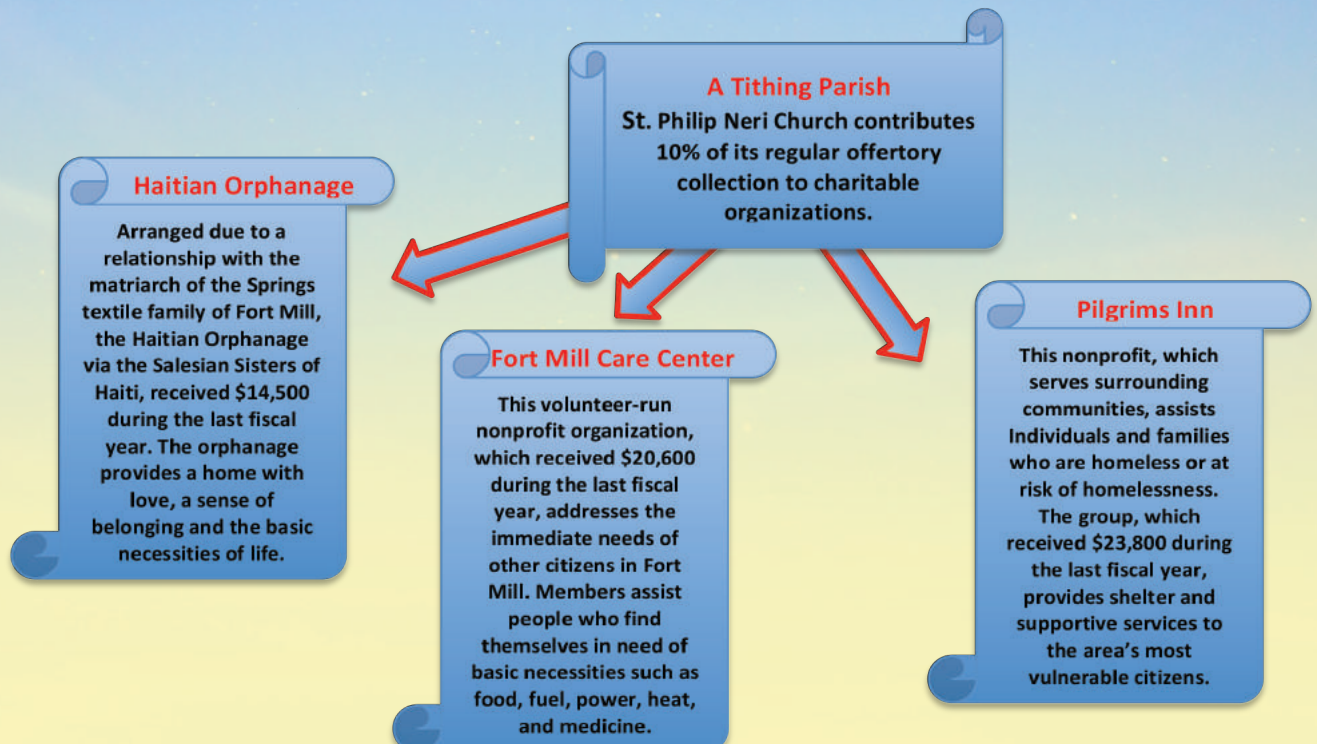
Knowing that God can never be outdone in generosity, and filled with gratitude to God for his many graces and blessings upon our parish, St. Philip Neri Church long ago committed to annually donate 10% of the regular offertory collections to individuals in need and organizations that assist with providing basic human needs such as food, clothing and a place to call home. This act of charitable donations, which is a sign that our church has spiritually embraced the stewardship of our treasure, signifies that we are a tithing parish.

We give thanks to all who give unselfishly through the parish offertory, which has enabled our parish to assist, for many years, those who are less fortunate. Hopefully, all who worship here at St. Philip Neri Church will embrace the practice of returning to God a portion of what He has so generously given to us—each according to their means. May equal sacrifice, not equal giving, unite and enable us to continue the mission to which we have been called.



Current Tithing

Through the generosity and stewardship of treasure from our parishioners, St. Philip Neri Church's tithing totaled approximately \$176,000, or 10% of the regular collections contributed during the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2017. Given the planned budget for 2017/2018, the parish will tithe an estimated \$172,000 during the current fiscal year to deserving nonprofits and individuals in dire need. Recipients of our greatest charitable tithing during the last year included Pilgrim's Inn, the Fort Mill Care Center and a Haitian Orphanage.



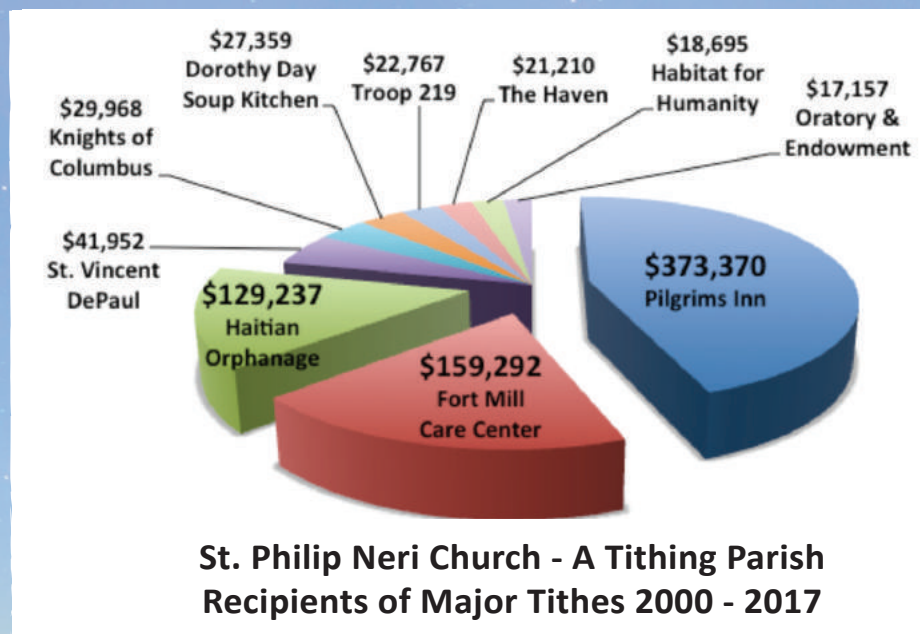
St. Philip Neri Church is a Tithing Parish!

Procedure for Tithing

St. Philip Neri Church's Stewardship Committee, which was established in early 2017, seeks to develop stewardship as a way of life in the parish, with members educating parishioners about the gifts of our time, talent and treasure given to us by God. Due to the increase in Sunday offertory over the years, our church has given an increasing amount of tithes as our parish has grown. As such, a formal procedural program to carefully discern and prayerfully grant the tithing monies to deserving organizations will be established by the Stewardship Committee.

In an effort to ensure fiscal responsibility and be diligent stewards of the church's tithing monies, the committee will identify opportunities through an application process, deliberate the best allocation of resources, and approve the disbursement of tithing monies for charitable works undertaken by deserving organizations.

Typically, funds are provided to organizations that provide basic needs of food, clothing, shelter, medical or educational services for the impoverished and disadvantaged. Our tithes serve residents in our local neighborhoods and national locales, while also supporting missionary efforts abroad.



Our Church's Tithing - Through the Years

Through our tithing efforts, St. Philip Neri Church has undoubtedly touched countless lives. Amazingly, our tithes totaled over \$1.3 million from the fiscal year 2000/2001 through fiscal year 2017.

Many worthy charities have been helped, with the top three organizations receiving nearly 50% of the tithes during the time period. Pilgrims Inn, our largest beneficiary, received approximately \$373,000 over the 17-year period, including nearly \$157,000 during the past five years. The second largest amount of tithing has been provided to the Fort Mill Care Center. They received over \$159,000 during the extended period, including \$70,000 over the last five years.

Our church has responded to the Gospel call by also helping those in need that live abroad. The Haitian Orphanage, which receives funds due to a relationship with the matriarch of the Springs textile family of Fort Mill, is operated by the Salesian Sisters of Haiti. This entity has received over \$129,000 during the time period, including approximately \$68,000 during the last five years.

'Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.' Matthew 25:45

Serving the Community, through Our Outreach

*"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink,
a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me,
ill and you cared for me, and in prison and you visited me."*

Matthew 25:35

In addition to serving our parishioners through outreach programs, volunteers reach out to those in need in the local community. Volunteers, through various outreach ministries in which they enjoy serving as God's ears, hands and helpers, follow a basic principle from Jesus – "whatever you do to the least of my people you do unto me." Emphasis lies with social services, social justice and community ministries, all of which seek to improve the community.

Martha's Meals

This ministry, which has served approximately 2,800 meals since its inception in 2008, is devoted to providing lunches on Saturday mornings to shut-ins in the local community. The cooks prepare meals in the church kitchen, with the drivers paired in twos for each individual delivery route. Volunteers, who typically serve one Saturday per month, are scheduled on a rotating basis. In addition, other volunteers are needed to provide freshly baked cookies, a welcomed addition to the lunches.



St. Vincent DePaul Society

The St. Vincent DePaul Society is a worldwide organization for Catholic adults that desire to live their faith by loving and serving their neighbors in need. Members, who grow spiritually during participation in the organization's efforts, provide food, clothing, financial assistance and spiritual support to the needy, aged and/or lonely individuals or families that are facing a desperate situation. All work is done on a confidential basis and in a manner that upholds the dignity of those in need.

Take Them A Meal

Everyone needs to eat. At times, however, life can make it a challenge to cook meals for your family. Have you recently welcomed a new baby? Are you dealing with an illness or loss in your family? Volunteers in this ministry wish to serve others in need by preparing meals. Please allow us to serve you as we would serve Christ. In addition, please contact the parish office if you know of someone that could benefit from some home cooked meals.

Red Cross Blood Drive

Conducted on a quarterly basis, the blood drives provide community members with the opportunity to donate the "Gift of Life." Signup sheets are typically available after all masses two weeks prior to a planned drive. Volunteers are also needed to bake cookies for the blood donors.



Community Support through Independent Organizations

A number of independent organizations regularly meet at St. Philip Neri Church, with these groups fostering various interests such as fraternity, careers, social interaction and support networks for recovery.

AIM – Addiction Independence Ministry

This organization aims to reduce the destructive impact of addiction, reduce the threat of relapse and increase prevention efforts across the community. The group, which offers financial and moral support to families by sponsoring and mentoring their loved ones through the addiction treatment and recovery process, also assists program graduates through apprenticeship opportunities and career counseling. Additional information is available at addictionindependenceministry.org.

Alpha Group

The Alpha Group, a local chapter of Sexaholics Anonymous (SAA), is a support network of men and women who gather to share their experiences, courage and perseverance as they strive to overcome sexual addiction and help others recover from sexual addiction or dependency. Through the use of a 12-step program, the organization's primary goal is for members to stay sexually sober and help others to recover and achieve sexual sobriety. Additional information may be obtained at <http://saa-recovery.org>.

Careers in Transition

This organization is a mentoring and networking group for people who are in transition with their professional career. The group offers support, encouragement, advice, skill building and networking opportunities through guest speakers and mentors who have career search experience and expertise.



National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)

NAMI is the nation's largest grassroots organization dedicated to building better lives for the millions of Americans challenged by mental illness. The local affiliate works in the community to raise awareness and provide

support and education that was not previously available to those in need. The group serves to educate, advocate for, listen to and lead those individuals and families affected by mental illness. Additional information is available at www.nami.org.



Overeaters Anonymous

Overeaters Anonymous offers physical, emotional and spiritual recovery programs for those individuals who want to stop eating compulsively. It is a safe, encouraging community where one can share struggles and celebrate

victories over addictions with compulsive overeating, under-eating, food addiction, anorexia, bulimia, binge eating, or over-exercising. Additional information is available at www.oa.org.



Toastmasters

The local affiliate of Toastmasters International, a world leader in communication and leadership development, provides parishioners with a forum to learn and practice skills such as public speaking. Members, through the offered programs, become more effective in serving God, the church, their family and the community. Additional information is available at www.toastmasters.org.

Parish Fellowship Organizations.....for All Ages

Fellowship among our parishioners is an integral part of parish life at St. Philip Neri Church, with a number of groups taking part to provide opportunities for social interaction, harmony and friendship. Each group, which fosters a different interest, enables participants to engage in various activities, interconnect with others and make friends that share common beliefs.

Cub Scouts – Pack 219

Membership in Pack 219, open to all boys in Grades One through Five, helps individuals grow into honorable men. The focus lies upon each boy's experiences with respect to religion, the outdoors, sports, citizenship and integrity. Growth, advancement and celebration are achieved through activities and monthly meetings.

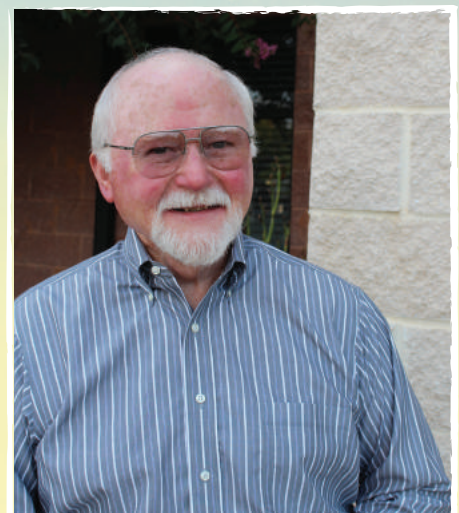
Boy Scouts – Troop 219

Troop 219, chartered by St. Philip Neri Church in 2005, is open to all boys who have completed at least the 5th grade, have received their Cub Scout Arrow of Light Award, or are at least 11 years of age. This organization teaches young men about the outdoors, leadership and citizenship.



Wise Owls

This ministry, which brings together members of our parish that are aged 55 and above, focuses on fellowship and companionship. Meetings, which are held the first Friday of each month, September through May, are followed by lunch.



Polish Group

The members of this group, which all have Polish ancestral roots, seek fellowship and community. Members take part in lively discussions about ancestors, Polish customs and present-day Poland. They also enjoy traditional music and food during Christmas and Easter celebrations.

Saints and Sinners Bowling League

This recreational league, which uses a scoring system based on an individual's handicap, is made up of parishioners from local Catholic Churches that enjoy friendship and community along with a good bowling match. Mixed couples can join, as well as individuals or partial teams that are paired with other participants. The league meets every other week from September through April, excluding the holidays.



Knights of Columbus

The Knights, a fraternal benefits society, is a national and international organization for Catholic men over the age of 18. The local council, known as the Bishop Denis J.

O'Connell - Council 12366, is dedicated to the principles of charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism. This council, which supports both the Catholic Church and the community, provides breakfast with St. Nick in December, sponsors a golf tournament in June and offers a fish fry during Lent.



Women's Group

This group, which is open to all interested women of the parish, actively engages women in a shared spiritual and social life. The members use their God-given talents to serve in the community and raise money for selected charities.

Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians

This group, which is part of the nation's oldest Irish Catholic fraternal organization, is open to all women of Irish descent that practice the Catholic faith. Building upon the principals of friendship, unity and Christian charity, members foster the ideals, promote Irish culture and embrace the history and traditions of the Irish people.

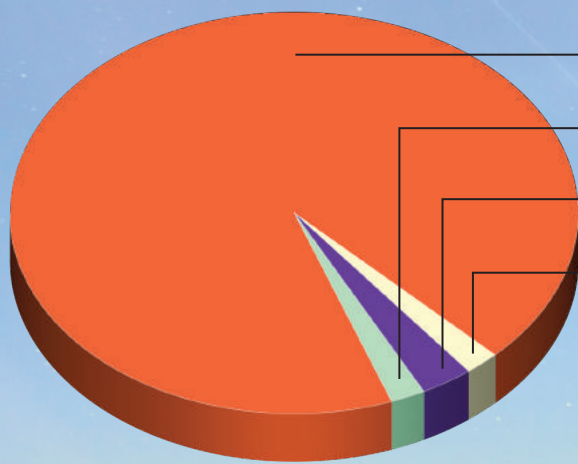
Your Stewardship of Treasure at Work

For the Fiscal Year 2016/2017, St. Philip Neri Church had general ordinary operating income of approximately \$2.0 million and general ordinary operating expenses of about \$1.6 million, activity that resulted in a surplus of \$405,000. Approximately 65% of the generated income resulted from the offertory collections. Some of our largest outlays include the categories of salaries and benefits for our clergy & administrative staff, the Diocesan assessment, and our tithes to worthwhile charitable organizations. Our parish has grown significantly over the years, with a corresponding increase in certain expenses necessary to continue the mission that God has entrusted to us.

Over the last several years, we, as a parish, have been steadily paying down the debt for our beautiful sanctuary that opened in May 2013. As of July 1, 2016, the loan balance was \$1,086,350. Over the past fiscal year, payments of \$811,350 were made against the debt. As of July 1, 2017, the loan balance was \$275,000, with the debt expected to be paid off in 2018.

The gifts from our parishioners' treasures indicate a generous, unending commitment that enables our parish community to continue its good works. Our church gratefully acknowledges your previous gifts with heartfelt appreciation and gratitude, and looks forward to your continued support.

General Ordinary Operating Income: 2016/2017



Total General Ordinary Operating Income \$2,005,693

Offertory Collections \$1,871,086 93%

Sundays & Holy Days

Designated Offerings \$40,941 2%

Memorials, Special Donations & Miscellany

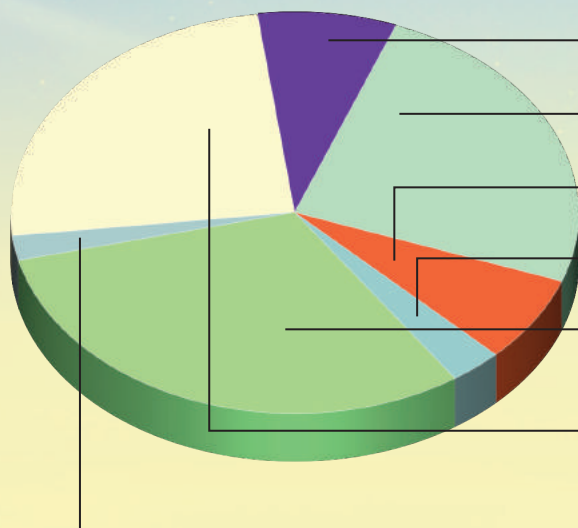
Other Income \$51,274 3%

Interest, Facility Usage Fees & Misc.

Religious Education Fees \$42,392 2%

Religious Education, RCIA & VBS

General Ordinary Operating Expenses: 2016/2017



Total General Ordinary Operating Expenses \$1,599,981

Other Administrative Expenses \$122,398 8%

Professional Services, Contract Labor, Office Supplies & Copiers

Administrative Salaries & Benefits \$392,702 25%

Administrative, Religious Education, Music & Maintenance

Priests Salaries & Benefits \$107,470 7%

Salaries, Stipends, Benefits, Retirement & Auto Allowances

Religious Education \$44,049 3%

Confirmation, Edge, Life Teen, VBS, & Adult

Operations & Maintenance \$498,062 31%

Diocesan Assessment, Property Insurance, Catholic School Subsidy & Charitable Contributions - Tithing

Church Expenditures \$401,613 25%

Religious Supplies, Music Repairs & Maintenance, Church Utilities & Contract Services

Rectory Expenses \$33,687 2%

Household Expenses, Oratory Room & Board, Social Commitments - Meals, Auto Expenditures & Insurance

The Life of St. Philip Neri - The Patron Saint of Joy

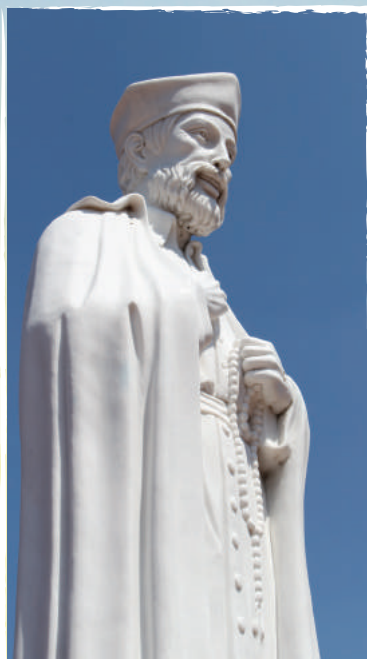
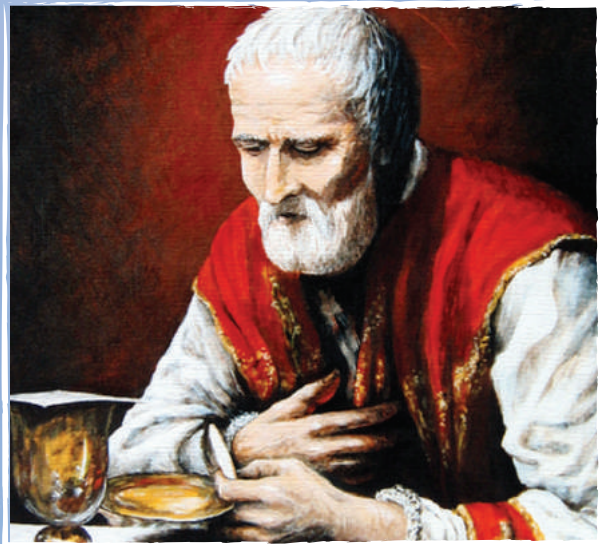
The Apostle of Rome & Founder of the Oratory

(Credit to International Catholic Stewardship Council)

Philip Neri was born in 1515 in Florence, Italy, during a time of intensive reform and vigorous renewal in the Church. The Council of Trent convened on three occasions during his lifetime. He went to Rome in 1532 where he lived in extreme poverty, but devoted himself to visiting the sick and helping poor children. With his engaging style, he evangelized young Florentines of the banking and merchant class. He arranged informal prayer and discussion groups. In 1548 he established an organization to provide hospitality for pilgrims to Rome and care for shut-ins.

At the urging of his confessor, Philip was ordained a priest at the age 36. He soon earned a reputation for being an outstanding confessor and spiritual director; gifted with being able to pierce the pretenses and illusions of others and to help them see the truth about themselves. He received penitents and guests from all walks of life, from cardinals to the very poor. Many people were attracted to him by the warmth of his personality, his wit, unpretentiousness and cheerfulness.

Some of Philip's followers became priests. Five of them lived together with him in community and began to share a common life under his direction. The group eventually grew and became the Congregation of the Oratory, which was approved in 1575. They are best known in England through their most famous member, Cardinal John Henry Newman. Philip and the Oratorians introduced a new style of personal spirituality for the laity, and encouraged them to give public testimony to their faith, put on theatrical productions and compose and play songs with religious themes. Philip suffered a stroke on May 25, 1595 and died the next morning. He was canonized a saint in 1622, although many church leaders considered him a saint even in his lifetime. He was known as the "Apostle of Rome" for evangelizing and reviving a spirit of faith among the city's populace. His many friends included Ignatius of Loyola, Francis Xavier, Charles Borromeo and Francis de Sales. He is the patron saint of the city of Rome. His feast day is May 26.



Prayer to St. Philip Neri, the Patron Saint of Joy

O holy St. Philip Neri, patron saint of joy, you who trusted Scripture's promise that the Lord is always at hand and that we need not have anxiety about anything, in your compassion heal our worries and sorrows and lift the burdens from our hearts. We come to you as one whose heart swells with abundant love for God and all creation. Hear us, we pray, especially in this need (make your request here). Keep us safe through your loving intercession, and may the joy of the Holy Spirit which filled your heart, St. Philip, transform our lives and bring us peace. Amen.

The Life of St. Philip Neri - The Patron Saint of Joy

The Italian Festival...

The Italian Festival...

The Italian Festival, our biggest fundraiser at Saint Philip Neri Church, is held each May. Celebrated for over 20 years, the three-day festival has grown into one of the largest community events in Fort Mill, annually attracting an estimated 10,000 visitors! This event, built upon "A Spirit of Caring and Giving," would not be possible without the considerable generosity and support of our volunteers, local area businesses, and attendees. Festival proceeds support the Church's mission, with a portion of the Cannoli Run profits given to a local community outreach program.

Mamma Mia! It takes over 600 volunteers each year to accomplish such a successful event! That's a lotta' paisanos! Our volunteers are people like you, parishioners who recognize the importance of stewardship and their need to share one's time, talents, and treasures for the greater good of our church community. Why so many volunteers? The Italian Festival, which offers so many different ways for attendees to enjoy their visit, is really THAT big. We have something for everyone to appreciate, including authentic homemade Italian food that even Nonna would approve of, live music and entertainment, the Cannoli 5K and Family Runs, Children's Games and Rides, Silent and Live Auctions, Charitable Drawings, Beer and Wine Tastings, the Children's Benvenuti Parade, Local Artisans and Vendors (a.k.a. SHOPPING), the Italian Idol Talent Contest, and so much more!

Not only do these numerous events have to run as smoothly as fresh mozzarella during the Italian Festival, we also have to ensure many other tasks do too. Activities such as marketing our event, finding local businesses to provide sponsorships, planning, organizing and implementing, preparing, cooking and serving the food, decorating, cleaning up, and the setting up and tearing down of the festival can all provide an experience of stewardship. The list goes on and on! That is where you come in.



Come Share Our Joy!

Opportunities abound for you to share your gifts with our church community by taking part in the Italian Festival. You can join the Festival Committee and help to lead and organize, or you can join one of the teams in an area that raises your interest. You can cook lasagna, baked ziti, or cookies. Why not sign up to stuff cannoli? Even if you don't have tons of time, please sign up to help on a day, or two, of the Festival to help out in any way you can. It really does take a village - well parish, that is - to be successful. An added bonus - you will meet some of the most amazing people, and share good times!

So please, consider volunteering for the Italian Festival, no matter how big or small your commitment may be. Your help is a huge part of our success, and you don't have to be Italian to join in the fun!

Grazie Mille!



Come Share Our Joy!





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